Enjoy Your Trip!

by Yi Wanyao

I love traveling, no matter whether it is in China or America. Through my travels, I have found some tourism differences between China and America. For example, America has a better environment and more free time and China has a large population, so the tourism spots are too crowded. But, the most significant point of difference I want to illustrate is that Americans and Chinese spend money in different ways.

First of all, American tourism spots are not very expensive. After arriving in America, I traveled many places in Oregon, ranging from Mt. Hood to Multnomah Falls to Depoe Bay. Those tourism spots are very cheap, and, sometimes, even free. Hiking Mt. Hood and seeing Multnomah Falls are free tourist activities; fishing in the sea at Depoe Bay only costs 70 dollars for a full-day trip. During the sea fishing, I could have everything I caught – such as crabs and fish – totally free. In China, we usually spend more money on entrance tickets and other extra fees.

Second, American people like to use money for comfortable traveling experiences, while people in China like to use their money for shopping when they are traveling. For example, American people like to sleep in expensive and comfortable hotels, but Chinese people like to sleep money on cheaper motels so they can extend their shopping budget. What’s more, American people like to spend money on food or traditional snacks, while Chinese people pay more attention to the stuff that they want to buy, such as luxury brands, cameras and computers.

Admittedly, there are many differences between the way people travel in America and China, and such differences are just the tendencies of the majority of the people in their country; not all Americans and Chinese are like that. But both countries have plenty of very beautiful landscapes and spectacular views. No matter where you come from, or where you go, just enjoy your trip.

The Differences Between America and Rwanda

by Ivan Mutabazi

When you say, “America,” all Rwandans understand that you mean “the United States of America.” The United States of America is a country which is totally different from Rwanda. Everyone from Rwanda has a few things from America that they know about, because many have heard from people who have been in the U.S.A. They say that life in America is good compared to life in Rwanda because America can offer more help in life than Rwanda does.

For example, the United States of America provides clean water to drink. However, there are three major differences: weather, jobs and careers, and foods.

Rwanda is a small country which is equal in size to the state of Maryland. The weather in Rwanda is hot from July to August, and it rains in April. For example, I have been raised in Kigali, Rwanda. The sun shines more than eight months of a year, and people use the shade of trees to hide from the sunlight. Others use umbrellas while they are walking to keep from the sun. Humidity is rare in Rwanda and only occurs in April and part of May. The weather is approximately 70 degrees Fahrenheit daily.

Jobs and careers are given a lot of emphasis when comparing Rwanda and the U.S. Rwanda is divided into districts which do not offer jobs. Jobs are available only in the capital, Kigali. For example, when I graduated from high school, I tried to find someone to hire me as an employee, so that I could contribute to my parents’ income, but none did it, because the jobs which are available are in the agricultural sector and they cannot hire people who are graduates. In rural areas the only work available is to dig, to reap and to harvest, depending on the season of the year. In contrast, the United States of America has a variety of jobs and careers, for example, the farmer, the businessperson and many other types of jobs, which differ from the jobs Rwanda offers. In the U.S., everyone
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The foods which we do not plant can be found in the market which gathers once a week. Here in America, we usually buy food at a supermarket, and the foods have varieties, such as Chinese, Mexican or other types. For example, pizzas are from Italy and rice from Asia. It was a great experience for me that Americans do not have farms; nevertheless, you can find little farms in their backyards.

To sum up, Rwanda is a country whose weather doesn’t change in different seasons. Rwanda also has a traditional culture which defines daily life. In America, people live with a lot of variety around them, like food, weather and jobs, so everyone can be flexible. These countries are good, and these differences also determine their culture.

Happy Serve Day
by Yipeng Liu

I really like Serve Day because we help people who need help in their lives. And also, God likes helping people and God wants people to get together to help each other. During the last Serve Day, I helped the elderly in three ways.

The day was a sunny day. I went to a retirement home with my housemates. The home looked very nice on the outside. There were a lot of old people living there; some of them were disabled, and some of them had medical problems so that they couldn’t live by themselves. I visited the bedrooms, which looked very cozy inside, and had a lot of family pictures on the walls. Some elderly people told me their family stories. I thought the old people living there, alone, must miss their families very much.

After visiting their rooms, we started our jobs, which were all cleaning tasks. Some people were cleaning the kitchen, some people were cleaning bathrooms, and others helped to wash the elderly people’s wheelchairs. I mostly cleaned windows with the help of my roommate. I never did this work before and it was a really good experience to be with these lovely elderly people, helping them get back to younger days and bringing up good memories of their lives.

I think the day was an interesting and significant day in my life. I did a job that I have never done before, and I learned more information about how to care for others. I think young people should care for their parents more often and take care of them.